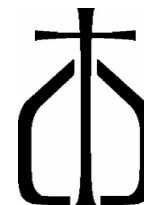




# The Communication Link

Catholic Charities

Serving Allen, Cass, Fulton,  
Kosciusko, Miami & Wabash County



All services are provided without regard to race, age,  
color, religion, sex, disability, national origin or ancestry.

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## THANK YOU!!!!

May is National Foster Care Month and a great time to salute all of you for making a difference in the lives of Indiana's children.

Young people need nurturing adults on their side; and thanks to the kindness and dedication of people like you, many foster children and teens will either safely reunite with their parents, be cared for by relatives or be adopted by loving families.

Together foster parents, relative caregivers, case managers and advocates can provide the young people in foster care with the guidance, stability and love that are so essential to their becoming successful adults.

On behalf of Indiana's foster children, we say "Thank You"!

## Extra Opportunities!!!!

**Safe Sitter Course:** Catholic Charities is considering offering this course for children of foster parents, ages 12 through 19, who are interested in babysitting or just wanting to be prepared when staying home alone. This four-hour class would cost about \$15.00 per participant and would be offered on a Saturday. If you have a young person in your home whom you would like to register for this course, contact Robin at [robins@mchsi.com](mailto:robins@mchsi.com) or 260-422-5625, ext 223. Classes will be scheduled based upon interest.

**AED Training:** Because several of you have asked about being trained in how to use an AED (Automated External Defibrillator), our CPR instructors have agreed to offer a free 90 minute class to those who have been CPR certified within the past 12 months. Classes will be limited to 15 people and will be scheduled based upon demand. If interested, contact Robin. (No In-service Credit)

**Free Yoga Classes:** An Allen Co. Foster Parent who is a certified yoga instructor is considering offering a gentle, stress relieving morning yoga class for case managers, foster parents, and others in the foster care field. If you're interested, send Robin an e-mail ([robins@mchsi.com](mailto:robins@mchsi.com)) and she'll forward it to the instructor.

**Kinship Care Providers:** Catholic Charities recently received a small grant from Catholic Charities USA to be used towards establishing a support network for kinship care providers. If you're a kinship care provider who is interested in participating in a support group and/or in mentoring other kinship care providers, e-mail your contact information and area of interest to Robin and you'll be contacted later as more information becomes available.

## Editor Contact Info

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## **Registration Instructions**

**All E-mail Registrations Must Include the Following Information:**  
**Registrations Sent Without It Will Not Be Accepted!!!!!!**

<b>Your Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone No.</b>	<b>Licensing Co.</b>	<b>Training Topic &amp; Date</b>
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### **Important Information**

- \* To register via phone contact Robin Springstead @ 260-422-5625.
- \* To register via e-mail send the above noted required information to [robins@mchsi.com](mailto:robins@mchsi.com)
- \* If the class is full you'll be contacted, otherwise you may not be.
- \* Reminders will only be sent for classes that are at least 3 hours in length.
- \* Classes marked SN are special needs topics but may be attended by any foster parent who is interested in the topic regardless of their license type.
- \* If you are no longer able to attend a class that you registered for please be sure to contact us immediately so that someone else may attend in your place!
- \* Do not register to attend a class unless you can commit to being at that class!

## **Training Opportunities**

### **Adult & Pediatric CPR (A Licensing Requirement: No In-service Hours)**

**Note:** CPR is valid for 1 or 2 years based upon the provider. Check expiration date on your certificate or card.

Sat., June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Rochester Library, Fulton Co.	10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sat., July 18 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Cottage, Fort Wayne	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### **First Aid and Universal Precautions (A Licensing Requirement: No In-service Hours)**

**Note:** First Aid is valid for three years. Universal Precautions is required initially & during the re-licensing year.

Tues., July 7 <sup>th</sup>	Catholic Charities, Fort Wayne	UP: 6:00 p.m. FA: 6:45 - 8:00 p.m.
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### **A Foster Child's Life in the Legal System From A to Z (2 Hours)**

This training will take a look at how a foster child's case progresses through the legal system and how and at what points foster parents should be involved. This training will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Tues., June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Winona Lake Grace Brethren Church, 1200 Kings Highway, Winona Lake.

### **Your Adopted/Foster Child's Personality Type Part I and II (2 Hours Each)**

This two-part training will teach participants how to recognize their child's personality type and how to use that knowledge for more effective parenting. These sessions will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Thurs., June 11<sup>th</sup> & Thurs. July 9<sup>th</sup> at the First Assembly of God Christian Center, 1400 W. Washington Center Rd. Fort Wayne (Enter Through Door 15 - Go to Room 37 B).

### **Documentation Training (5 Hours)**

This training which teaches participants what and how to document in relation to fostering is a one-time mandatory requirement for at least one parent from each foster home.

Sat., June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Allen County DCS, Fort Wayne	9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Sat., July 11 <sup>th</sup>	Dukes Hospital, Peru	9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

### **Three in One: Sexual Abuse/Neglect/Shaken Baby (3 SN Hours)**

This session which will focus on these three issues will be presented by SCAN but will be held at Catholic Charities, 315 E. Washington Blvd. Fort Wayne, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Wed., June 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Identifying & Managing Stress in Children & Adults (4 SN Hours)**

There is so much stress in the world today. Some is perceived and some very real but both can affect our disposition, our relationships, and our health. Join Sharon Mowrer for this class that will focus on recognizing stress in the children we service and in ourselves and learning techniques for managing that stress.

Sat., June 20 <sup>th</sup>	Allen County DCS, Fort Wayne	10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Sat., June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Dukes Hospital, Peru	10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

### **Two in One: Bullying and Dating Violence (2 SN Hours)**

This session which focuses on two very real and common issues in our society today will be presented by SCAN but be held at Catholic Charities, 315 E. Washington Blvd. Fort Wayne from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Wed., July 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Two in One: Developing Healthy Attachments/ Child & Family Team Planning**

This two part session on what is considered to be a healthy attachment for foster parents and their placements and how to develop it, along with an afternoon session on the teaming process and the foster parent's role in it, will be presented by Axa Troncoso at the Allen Co. DCS from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Sat., July 25<sup>th</sup>. **(4 Hours Total - 2 SN & 2 Reg. Hours)**

## **Community Training Opportunities**

**Note: A Foster Parent Training Credit Form must be submitted to receive credit for all of these classes except the Allen Co. Foster Parent Association meetings!**

### **Allen County Foster Parent Association Meetings (Up to 2 Hours Each)**

These monthly meetings are currently being held at Children's Cottage in Fort Wayne, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month except December. Child care and a light supper are provided. No registration is required. Up to two hours of in-service credit will be given when an approved speaker presents a program. Some sessions may be considered SN depending upon the presenter and their topic. Refer to your newsletter from Cathy Bosk for topic information.

### **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Support & Education Group (2 Hours - SOME SN)**

On the second, third and fourth Monday of each month (except July & December) starting at 6:30 p.m., Child Life Center facilitates 2-hour training sessions for interested persons and caregivers of children diagnosed with a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. Childcare is provided for a small fee. To receive in-service credit, a copy of the certificate they give you (small fee charged) **or** a completed and signed Foster Parent Training Credit Form must be submitted to Catholic Charities. Call 447-7116 for details or just show up these evenings at Parkwood Church of God, 3320 Trier Road, Fort Wayne.

### **Resources For a Healthier You**

The Dupont Resource Center has opened their doors to individuals wanting to research health topics and talk with staff regarding a health concern or diagnosis. To learn about their classes, events, and support groups, visit [DupontResourceCenter.com](http://DupontResourceCenter.com) or call 260-416-3009. If appropriate classes are attended or 1:1 information sessions occur, training credit may be awarded if a Foster Parent Training Credit Form is signed in part C by the educator **&** appropriate documentation is attached to it.

## Helpful Information

### ***Need a Form?***

### ***Need Information?***

If so, check out the foster care page on our web site at [www.ccfwsb.org](http://www.ccfwsb.org)  
These resources and others may be found there:

Alternative Training Resource List  
FP Training Credit Form  
Behavior Observation Form  
Clothing Inventory  
"The Communication Link"

Alternative Training Verification Form  
Child's Information Sheet  
Medication Log  
Court Report Form  
DCS Child Welfare Manual

**Note:** Information on adoption can be found on our adoption page at this same web address.

### **Alternative In-service Training Policy**

Up to four hours (eight hours if maintaining a special needs license) of in-service training credit may be earned per training year by foster parents who review state approved resources such as movies and books but only if they submit a completed Alternative Training Verification Form. One form must be completed for each item reviewed and a form must be completed by each person who reviews the item (They may not be submitted as a couple). The approved resource list and the verification form can be found on the foster care page of the Catholic Charities' web site at [www.ccfwsb.org](http://www.ccfwsb.org).

**Note:** Catholic Charities does maintain a small library of resources that are available to borrow for up to ten days at a time but the items must be requested in advance with pick up arrangements being made with Robin or Sherina. Many of the items on the list are also available through your local library, video store and/or book store.

Completed Verification Forms Must Be Submitted To:  
Robin Springstead, FAKT Coordinator  
315 E. Washington Blvd.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

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### ***Most Frequently Asked Questions***

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**1. How many hours of in-service training must a foster parent complete per year?**

Ten in-service hours are required per training year. Those with a Special Needs license must complete 20 with at least 10 hours being special needs specific. This requirement is per foster parent and not per household.

**2. Is child care provided at training sessions offered by Catholic Charities?**

No, it is not, and children may not attend training sessions regardless of their age.

**3. How do I get credit for sessions I attended that were not offered by Catholic Charities?**

You must complete and submit a ***Foster Parent Training Credit Form*** to the FAKT Coordinator being sure to attach a training flyer or agenda and a certificate if received. This form is available at [www.ccfwsb.org](http://www.ccfwsb.org).

**4. How do I get credit for training I received specifically for a particular foster child?**

If trained by a medical or mental health professional on issues related to a specific child in your care, in-service training credit may be awarded if a statement is completed by that professional indicating the date, length of time spent, topic covered, and the reason for the session. This information may be handwritten or typed onto letterhead or a prescription pad. Credit for this method of instruction will be determined by the Training Coordinator and will be the same as a classroom session, minute for minute. This time will be considered classroom training and not alternative training.